The most urgent necessity in India to-day is the speedy development of vigorous *panchayats* and autonomous local bodies which will have a real democratic character. Independence has been weakened by constant reference to the Central Government, and one of the great weaknesses of British rule to-day is that it makes a magnificent scapegoat. [1;]Ah! We have a foreign government. What can we do?" And the result is a tragic lack of initiative and much corruption in local government.

Tagore once wrote that "the government in our country, the *Sarkar,* has no relations with our social organisation, the *Samaj)* so that whatsoever we may seek from the former must be paid for out of our own freedom. From whichever of its duties our *Samaj* seeks relief by getting it done by the *Sarkar,* to that extent will it be disabled with an incapability which was not of its essence in the past. To-day we are striving, of our own accord, to place in the hands of the *Sarkar* the whole duty of our *Samaj"* It is necessary to purge the *Samaj* of the vestiges of caste and to interpret it in terms of social democracy, but the words of Tagore are a valuable corrective to governmental bureaucracy and to any Fascist tendencies.

The growth of organisations on an economic basis can be most fruitful in India, breaking down caste divisions and recreating a healthy independence and checking the tendency to extreme centralisation. That there must be a strong central government in India is obvious, but its functions must be strictly limited and efficiently related to the delegated powers, not only of autonomous provinces, but to innumerable local bodies. The Soviet Constitution^ at least on paper, has this pattern, and in a country as large as India it is essential. It also, though suffering a sea-change, corresponds to some of the ideals of the past.